

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1923, January 28, 1956



Fanfare

Two members of the band of Police Buglers which will be on parade during the Queen's tour of Nigeria. See page 5

UNDERGROUND SEARCH BY AIR

Valuable ore deposits have been discovered in Norway by aerial survey. A British aircraft was used. It was equipped with a magnetic recorder giving a reading when within 500 or 600 feet of ore. This meant that the survey, over mountainous country, had to be carried out by low flying.

In all a total of 300 square miles was surveyed in detail, locating deposits estimated to contain over 100 million tons of ore.

BIRD THAT WALKS UNDER WATER

A Continental black-bellied dipper—an unusual bird which walks under water—has been seen in Kent by members of the Dungeness Bird Observatory.

The Continental dipper is even rarer than the British dipper, which is found most commonly in Devon, where it flits from rock to rock in rivers and streams. It walks under water by gripping with its feet and using its wings.

SALES SPECIAL

A special train was hired by a large Sheffield store to run to its winter sales from Scunthorpe.

The 400 people who travelled free on the train were not compelled to buy anything at the store though they had to visit it to secure their return tickets.

GOLD RUSH IN GREECE

Greece has a miniature gold rush.

Some time ago a villager of Solo, near Kalavryta, found yellowish stone in the foothills of Mount Helmos. He took it to an expert, who found that it contained silver, flint, zinc, and possibly gold. Very soon all the people from the village had joined the search for gold.

Examinations of samples so far submitted show that there is only a little gold content in the ore, but there are other minerals in it which will probably make the search worth while.

QUEER TASTE IN NAMES

When a young man in Los Angeles tried recently to enlist in the United States Navy, he gave his name as Tonsillitis Jackson. Officials flatly refused to believe that this was his name, especially when Navy doctors found he had tonsillitis and sent him to hospital.

Inquiries revealed that the whole Jackson family had been named after illnesses. There was a sister called Meningitis and three other brothers suffering with similar names—Laryngitis, Appendicitis, and Peritonitis Jackson.

PIGEONS STOP CLOCK

When the Town Clock on the Municipal Chambers of Burnt-island, Fifeshire, stopped it was at first thought that stormy weather had damaged the works.

An inspection showed that pigeons, nesting in the steeple, had brought in enough straw and hay to fill two large sacks. This had clogged the mechanism of the clock as well as dulling the peal of the bells.

MR POLLEY TO THE RESCUE

He helps the Bush Boys

Mr. Polley is one of the most remarkable men in Central Africa, and a C N correspondent travelling there met him recently at his post in the copper mines of Northern Rhodesia. But he is neither miner nor mine manager. He just has a genius for managing boys, and the African boys like and trust him for the great work he has done and is still doing for them.

THE home of Mr. Polley is a workshop attached to the Nkana Copper Mine, one of the immense working shafts which bore down thousands of feet into the rich copper-bearing rock. He was born in Essex, started life as a sailor, and has the open, friendly way of a sailor.

Naturally he is a handyman, too, and when he came to the Copper Belt he quickly found good use for his abilities. But his chief skill proved to be in handling the hundreds of boys who were flocking to the Copper Belt area from as far away as Nyasaland and Tanganyika.

Expecting to find riches quickly, they came crowding in. But many of them were too young to be given work, and so, separated from their families, they became a problem in idleness both to themselves and to the community.

It was then that Mr. Polley came to the rescue. With the help of the mining company he started a workshop where hands unaccustomed to the use of tools and machinery, could grow used to the feel of chisels, screw-drivers, and a simple lathe. Those

African boys learned how good material can be spoiled by making mistakes, and they learned how something useful can sometimes be created out of almost nothing.

Mr. Polley persuaded his friends to send him broken pieces of wood, lengths of disused string, old sacks, bits of leather, and especially old clothes and shoes. From the mines he got sheets of copper which were not quite good enough for refining, and with this unpromising material he persuaded his African boys, straight out of the bush, that the best way to have things you are proud of is to make them yourselves.

IMPORTANCE OF SELF-HELP

Towering above Mr. Polley's workshop is the latest that electrical engineering can produce in mining equipment, and below the workshop, far into the earth, are the marvels of rock blasting. Barefooted African boys, dazzled by the wonder of it all, are helped by Mr. Polley to see that what you can do yourself is more important than what can be done by pulling electric switches.

Today Mr. Polley's workshop is the meeting-place of scores of boys in the vast Copper Belt who are at a loose end. This smiling, friendly, Essex sailorman shows the visitor with great pride the jugs and jars of rough copper his boys have made. Here is a row of brushes, and here a set of chairs polished and carved by boys whose homes are in primitive Africa. A row of boys is at the cobbler's bench mending shoes, and making rubber slippers out of disused motor tyres.

LESSON TO BE LEARNT

All over the Copper Belt mention of Mr. Polley's name or of his workshop brings smiles to white as well as black faces. Mr. Polley's simple genius is worth a whole army of policemen and he succeeds through self-help in teaching many lessons the bush boy from the Copper Belt needs to learn.

And that boy must learn those lessons if he is to understand the bright and glittering world of machines, and how to live peacefully and happily in it.



Karloff and the Marquis

Two Samoyed puppies, Karloff of Kobe and Marquis of Kobe, pose proudly for the photographer. Their father, Champion Prince Bado of Kobe, has been Best of the Breed for three years running at Cruft's Show.

RUNNING POSTMAN

The runner carrying messages in a cleft stick has long been part of the African scene. But even there they are becoming fewer.

The building of all-weather roads and bridges, motor transport, and the telephone, have gradually made it unnecessary, although dwellers in remote country districts in Nyasaland still depend on these sure-footed messengers for their letters in the rainy season.

It is only a matter of time before the African runners and their cleft sticks become history, like our once hard-riding postboys and the pony express riders of America.

What clothes did the Pilgrims wear?

How were the Pilgrim Fathers dressed on September 6, 1620, when they sailed for America?

This is a poser for the Wool Textile Export Corporation of Bradford which is taking part in the scheme for sending a replica of the famous Mayflower to the United States in July. Her cargo will include the finest in British woollen and worsted clothes.

The Pilgrims wore clothes of woollen broadcloth (cotton or synthetic fibres being unknown in England in 1620), but it is the actual details of their dress which is causing the Corporation experts to delve deep into records.

FISH FOR KOREANS

About five months ago the Government of Korea received a present of a shipment of 470 tilapia fish from Thailand.

Now, in tanks at special fish hatcheries near Pusan, the original 470 fish have multiplied to more than 30,000 so that the staff have stopped trying to count them. In Korean waters the tilapia have grown as quickly and multiplied as fast as in tropical countries.

Those 30,000 tilapia give promise of abundant fish dinners throughout Korea next year, for thousands of young fish will be available for distribution next Spring.

This is good news for Korea where meat is not abundant.

News from Everywhere

An underground sea some 463 square miles in extent has been discovered in Arctic Russia.

IDEAS, PLEASE

Suggestion boxes are to be set up throughout Holland to receive the people's ideas on how to run the country.

A new code for labelling air cargoes, using pictures as well as words, has recently been introduced on many of the world's airlines.

Evening classes for cyclists are being held at Enfield, Middlesex.

A pack of wolves recently chased a bus along a lonely stretch of roadway in the Abruzzi region of Italy.

BBC television programmes have recently been picked up by receivers in Rotterdam and The Hague.

Cat on parade



The 1st Battalion the South Staffordshire Regiment (now in Cyprus) recently celebrated one of their historic victories. Before the parade, this model cat, presented to the Regiment in Mandalay, was carried to the saluting base. It is a representation of a ferocious creature, the Bay cat, which lives in the jungles of Burma and Malaya.

The scene of Macbeth's meeting with the three witches—the "heath near Forres" in Morayshire—is to be ploughed up and sown with oats.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kirbyshaw of Wadsley, Sheffield, have celebrated 60 years of married life—all in the same house.

The London Fire Brigade had 23,197 calls last year, a new record. Over 5500 were false alarms.

The whole of the Moscow-Vladivostok railway line is to be electrified in the next ten years.

On March 23 the Queen is to lay the foundation stone of the new Coventry Cathedral.

The Rhodesian Federation now has its own flag. It is a blue ensign with the shield of the Federal coat-of-arms.

Mind those claws!



This little polar bear is only a baby but has very sharp claws. It was born recently at the Zoo at Vincennes, near Paris.

The Imperial Institute at South Kensington, London, is staging an exhibition called Nigeria Welcomes the Queen. It will remain open until March 25. Admission is free.

NEW PLANET

A Brussels astronomer claims to have found a new planet between Jupiter and Mars.

A model of the Coronation coach made from 100,000 flowers won the national trophy at the Tournament of Flowers held at Pasadena, California.

A book printed in 1672 at Faenza, Italy, has been found in a bookshop at Wellington, New Zealand. The Vatican Library has the only other known copy.

CINEMAS AT SEA

Trawlers being built at Lowestoft for Russia are to have cinemas.

The parish pump at Dunmow, Essex, is to remain as an ancient monument despite complaints that it impedes traffic.

A former Cambridge Blue, who rowed in 1906, has presented the Cambridge University Boat Club with their boat for this year's Boat Race.

Police and R.S.P.C.A. officials had to catch and clean hundreds of swans and ducks on the Thames when a barge with a cargo of oil sank at Battersea.

Big Ben



Ben, the London Zoo's new white rhinoceros. Although called white, Ben is actually slate grey.

The CN National Handwriting Test of 1956 now open!

1068 Prizes Value £500 to Win . . . Three Age Groups

GREAT interest has been aroused all over the country by the announcement last week of the CN National Handwriting Test of 1956—the sixth of these great competitions to be held by CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER.

The Test is open to all full-time pupils of schools and colleges in Great Britain, all Ireland, and the Channel Islands who are under 17, and CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER is inviting schools and teachers to co-operate.

Entrants have only to copy the Test Passage (given on the special Entry Form), a short paragraph on the subject of Road Safety, in the writing style taught in their schools. The Entry Forms will be issued only through schools, and Prizes totalling £500 in value are to be awarded for the best entries.

To give everyone an equal chance, the Test is divided into THREE AGE GROUPS, with prizes in each for both pupils and schools. You can thus win for your school as well as yourself in this great competition for 1068 prizes! Here is the complete prize list:

Group A	For Pupils under 9	Group B	Pupils of 9 to under 12	Group C	Pupils of 12 to under 17
FIRST PRIZES		FIRST PRIZES		FIRST PRIZES	
To the School	£25	To the School	£25	To the School	£25
Prize-winning Pupil	£5	Prize-winning Pupil	£5	Prize-winning Pupil	£5
SECOND PRIZES		SECOND PRIZES		SECOND PRIZES	
To the School	£10	To the School	£10	To the School	£10
To the Pupil	£3	To the Pupil	£3	To the Pupil	£3
THIRD PRIZES		THIRD PRIZES		THIRD PRIZES	
To the School	£5	To the School	£5	To the School	£5
To the Pupil	£2	To the Pupil	£2	To the Pupil	£2

50 Special Sports Prizes

Cricket-bats, Tennis-rackets, Footballs, Netballs, Hockey-sticks, Boxing-gloves, etc., at the winners' choice.

1000 Fountain-pens

Consolation prizes consisting of special "exchange point" pens each Autographed with the winner's name.

10,000 Awards of Merit

Certificates for the best entry from each school not represented in the prize list.

If you would like to win prizes for both yourself and your school, please show this announcement to your Teacher, and (unless the school has already applied) ask him or her kindly to complete this coupon and send it to CN. Entries in the Test must be completed on the proper Entry Form.

The Test may be done in school or at home, as decided by the Teacher, who is asked to sign it on completion. There is NO entry fee—but when returned, every pupil's attempt must have affixed

to it one of the Tokens (marked CN Writing Test 1956) now appearing in every copy of CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER. You will find one at the foot of the back page of this issue.

The Closing Date for entries is Wednesday, March 28. These, when completed, are to be sent in in accordance with the rules, also given in the Entry Form. (N.B.—It is regretted that the Test cannot be extended to schools outside Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands, and the Irish Republic.)

Note to Schoolmasters and Schoolmistresses

The Entry Form contains the Test Passage, space for the pupil's effort, and the full rules. It is issued only to schools on request. Teachers are asked kindly to assess the number of forms required as closely as possible, and to send for them on this coupon. The supply will then be sent free and post free, to be handed out at school. (If desired, a specimen Entry Form will be sent before the full request is made.) Last date for form applications is February 29.

To CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER, Competition Dept., CN
3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.).

Please send me (free and post free) copies of the CN National Handwriting Test of 1956 Entry Form for my pupils.

PRINCIPAL/FORM-MASTER or MISTRESS

School

School Address

This coupon may be posted under 1½d. stamp if sent unsealed

The Children's Newspaper, January 28, 1956

THAT EASTER TOUR

Cyclists and walkers planning Easter expeditions will find the 1956 Handbook of the Youth Hostels Association a great help.

Details are given of nearly 300 hostels in England and Wales; there are many maps; a mine of information about the Y.H.A.; and much useful advice for those who are taking open-air holidays.

Youngsters will be interested to note that members between 12 and 16 years need no longer be accompanied by older members. Another innovation is that there are no longer any hostels where the length of stay is restricted to one or two nights. Charges throughout the year will be 2s. 6d. a night for those over 16, and 1s. 3d. for those under.

This excellent service is something no cycling or walking-tourist can afford to miss. The Handbook (11d. post free for non-members) can be obtained from the Y.H.A.'s National Office at Trevelyan House, St. Albans, Herts.

ROYAL BAKER, BUTCHER, AND BARBER

A list of smaller shops that have been granted warrants of appointment to the Queen has been published in London. Included in it are the baker and butcher at Ballater, near Balmoral Castle.

Another list gives 29 names of businesses holding warrants of appointment to the Duke of Edinburgh. Among these are the village barber at Ballater, his kilt-maker in Edinburgh, and a firm of yacht refitters at Cowes in the Isle of Wight.

WORLD'S DOCTORS

The United Nations has just completed a census of the world's doctors. The number is 1,200,000, trained at 595 medical schools in 85 countries.

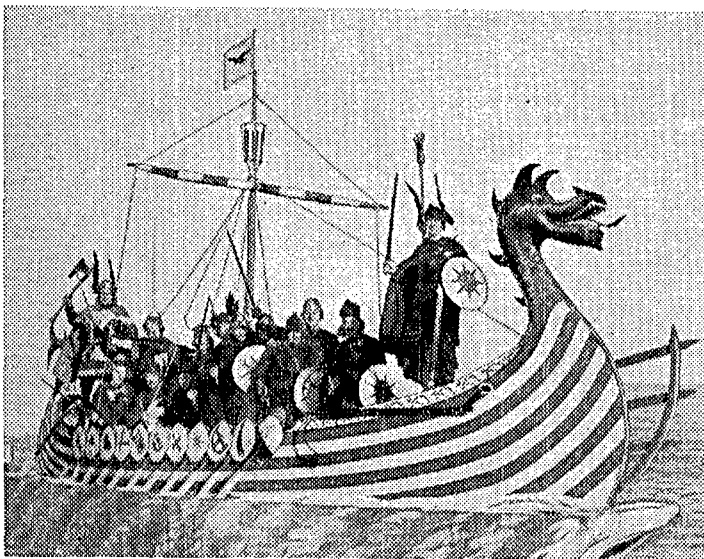
Every year from these medical schools between 50,000 and 60,000 new doctors leave to take up the work of healing.



How did it get there?

The puzzle is, how did the locomotive get into the bottle? The answer could be given by Mr. John Williams, of Dunstable, who built it. There are 58 separate pieces in the model, which is six inches long.

Great Shetland Festival



Vikings aboard the 30-foot galley which is ceremonially burnt at the end of the great Up-Helly-A' Festival at Lerwick

On January 31 the Shetland Islanders hold their ancient Up-Helly-A' Festival at Lerwick.

It is a colourful torchlit procession with a full-size model of a Viking war galley, which is finally burnt, and its origin goes back to the time when the Norsemen invaded and ruled Shetland.

They welcomed the lengthening days by lighting bonfires in honour of the gods Odin and Thor, and carried torches through the fields in the belief that all this fire would ensure good weather for their crops and fair winds for their ships. In those days the festival lasted a month; now it only lasts a few hours.

But the people of Lerwick have been preparing for a month,

building a gaily-coloured galley, about 30 feet long.

Leaders of the festival, or Guizers, have elected as commander of the celebrations a Guizer Jarl who, dressed in winged helmet and carrying a shield, stands behind the fearsome figurehead of the galley.

Next Tuesday the galley will be drawn through the town on a wheeled platform surrounded by 300 torchbearers. The town band will play, and excited crowds will sing the traditional festival song: "From grand old Viking customs, Up-Helly-A' has come."

The climax takes place at the harbour. A bugle is sounded, and the 300 torches are thrown into the ship, setting it ablaze.

BUSES IN AMSTERDAM

Amsterdam—a city of many canals—is ordering a new fleet of buses and trams. Over 200 of the present fleet are to be scrapped and replaced by tram-and-trailer sets and "bussets."

A busset consists of a bus towing a trailer, the two connected by a telescopic passageway.

TRIPS THROUGH THE CURTAIN

British tours to Russia, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia are planned for this year.

One of Britain's leading travel agencies, Cook's, has planned a 15-day tour, including visits to Moscow and Leningrad by air. The costs, for parties of over 15, are £211 for first-class and £181 for third-class. Individual costs would be £263 per head. The same agency has also planned a number of coach tours through Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

VIENNA'S RESERVOIR OF NATURAL GAS

After a recent survey it has been announced that the city of Vienna is built on top of a tremendous deposit of natural gas. Austria is known to have over 30 natural gas wells, producing something like 400 million cubic feet of gas annually.

Householders in Vienna thus have a huge supply of natural gas under their very feet. All that is needed is the means of tapping it.

HORSE HATS

Animal welfare societies in the Argentine have issued a warning to the drivers of all horse-drawn vehicles that, by Argentine law, horses must now wear hats during summer. Regulations also direct that horses may not be worked for more than eight hours a day.

ATOMIC FLYING BOATS

Five aircraft companies in the United States are studying a design specification set out by the U.S. Navy for an atom-powered flying-boat which could fly round the world non-stop at more than 600 m.p.h.

Two major factors have led to the U.S. Navy requiring a flying-boat instead of a conventional landplane. The first is that the weight of the atomic power plant would prevent a landplane from using any but the longest runways for take-offs and landings, and the second is that in case of an accident there would be less danger over water.

The shielding to protect the crew from radiation effects would weigh about the same as the engines, but the landing weight of nuclear planes will be much higher than conventional aircraft because very little fuel will be used up during flight.

RECOGNISING WHAT YOU SEE ON THE MAP

Map-reading is a fascinating study, and Scouts, Guides, and others who are interested will find two new filmstrips very useful.

The first shows photographs of actual buildings and streets, followed by the symbols for them on Ordnance maps so that recognition becomes easier. The second deals with larger, built-up features. The city, town, village, hamlet, and farm are shown first as they are, and then as they are symbolised on the map.

The filmstrips, costing 15s. each, are the first of a new series illustrating how to read Ordnance maps. They are available at the G.B. Film Library, Perivale, Middlesex.

MORE AUSTRALIANS WANTED

Last year 26,356 people went to Australia from Britain under the assisted passages scheme. Eighty per cent of them went in family groups.

One of the interesting new "Aussies" was young Nigel Moore of Watford, whose portrait was published not long ago in the CN after it had been chosen by the Institute of British Photographers as the 1955 Child of the Year. Now it is to be used in advertisements throughout Britain drawing attention to the prospects for children Down Under.

Australia hopes to assist an average number of 500 British immigrants every week this year.

The flowers of Spring



While it is still winter over the rest of the country, the Portluggarra Valley near Land's End is bright with daffodils.

97 NEW LAKES

The State of Zulia in Venezuela is to have 97 artificial lakes—part of a project to give farmers an all-the-year-round water supply.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL ENTRANCE

Postal Tuition can help your child to pass this examination

Let your child join our long list of successes. ENROL NOW! DON'T DELAY! We are the oldest established experts in this form of education.

Courses to suit all ages from 8½-14½ years.

Write to the Registrar for full particulars and free Diagnostic Test, stating age of child and approximate date of examination.

HOME "PREP" CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL (Dept. C.N. 4), College House, Howard Place, Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent

A SUPPLEMENT TO YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION

The child who

that makes the difference

This Brochure FREE

CAN YOU SPOT THESE DOGS?



START dog spotting right away on the celebrated pink form (L523) which your teacher can obtain in bundles of 50 (together with free chart in full colour identifying 95 breeds) from:—

R. Harvey Johns, Chief Dog Spotter, 10 Seymour St., London, W.1.

Please hand this to your teacher who will appreciate that Dog Spotting is an educational, open air activity sponsored by The National Canine Defence League to encourage kindness to animals.

WATCH FOR NEW CLUB ACTIVITIES

Teacher's Name

Address

DS/CN12

MEET PAT SMYTHE

Prince Hal and Tosca, too

Saturday Excursion

ON Friday the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will fly overnight from London Airport to Lagos, the first halt in their tour of Nigeria, and their departure will be broadcast and televised. So Saturday Excursion in Children's Hour on January 28 is right up to date with a talk by BBC reporter Rene Cutforth about his travels in this vast West African territory.

In contrast, Eric Simms and Bob Wade, known as the BBC bird men, will play recordings they made at the Farne Islands bird sanctuary off the Northumberland coast. Then another switch will take us to London's Royal Albert Hall for Wynford Vaughan Thomas's recordings at the Boys' Brigade Brass Band Festival.

Looking ahead

It will be a long time before we have a Commonwealth TV link equivalent to Eurovision, so the Olympic Games next November in Australia will reach British viewers by film.

Meanwhile, the Australians are racing hard to have their TV service operating in time for the Games. The British Marconi Company, which has already had contracts for two Government-controlled stations, is now rushing out £500,000 worth of equipment for newspaper-owned TV stations in Melbourne and Sydney.

Sportsmen on the stand

Boys and girls from Cathays High School, Cardiff, will be challenging sporting giants in BBC Children's TV on Thursday in Sports Forum at the Welsh studios. Standing up to a barrage of questions will be Wilfred Wooller (rugby and cricket), John Disley (athletics), and Marjorie Pollard (hockey).

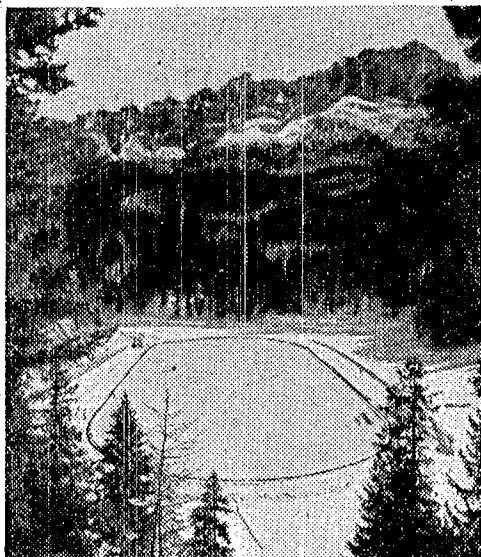
The chairman will be Alun Williams, who is often heard in Children's Hour.

Sport on Snow and Ice

Who wouldn't go to the Continent for winter sports if they had the chance? Most of us, surely; but the next best thing is to follow the Winter Olympic Games at Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy, by Eurovision.

The BBC will be taking live broadcasts and films from this Thursday onwards, until February 5. Besides ski-jumping in the afternoons and ice-hockey in the early evenings, the BBC hopes to show the Russia-Canada ice-hockey match.

The Italian television service will be using eleven cameras in the stadium. A chain of relay stations has been set up for the Eurovision link over the Dolomites.



The speed skating rink cut out of Lake Misurina at Cortina d'Ampezzo



EVEN boys and girls who do not ride horses will want to see Pat Smythe in BBC Television this Wednesday evening. She will be At Home to television cameras in the old dower house at Miserden, Gloucestershire. Viewers will also have a chance to meet her famous horses, Prince Hal and Tosca, seen with Pat Smythe in the picture.

Hywel Davies, whom you'll

agree is one of TV's best interviewers, will talk to Pat Smythe about her remarkable career. Though she is Britain's leading horsewoman, she started without a country background, having been born in London.

Since she was chosen for the British Show Jumping Team at the age of 18 she has won more than 400 awards in ten different countries.

Catching up with Robin Hood

YOUNG viewers of Commercial TV in the Midlands when the Lichfield station opens next month will certainly get their money's worth of The Adventures of Robin Hood, and of the escapades of that delightful little character, Noddy. Associated Television will be presenting the first 22 instalments of each at the rate of two a week so that they can catch up with the London weekend showings of these programmes.

In London Robin Hood and his Merrie Men had a five-month start!

Radio pilgrims in Guildford

CHILDREN of Guildford will throng to the new Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity on Sunday to sing with the choir in another Cathedral Pilgrimage in Children's Hour. The radio pilgrims will be met by the Provost, the Rev. C. G. Pearson, and the cathedral staff.

Memories of ITMA

DID you hear the two repeats of historic ITMA programmes broadcast at Christmas? From scriptwriter Ted Kavanagh I hear that recordings of these famous Tommy Handley shows may be a regular feature soon. The BBC is thinking of having each programme introduced by an ordinary listener who has vivid memories of hearing it during the war, perhaps in an air raid shelter or factory, or even on the battlefield.

ERNEST THOMSON

WHERE THE OLD BUSES GO

What happens to old buses once they have retired from service?

Quite a number of them are thoroughly reconditioned and then sent abroad for a further tour of duty. Iran, for instance, is buying second-hand British buses at the rate of about ten a month.

The reconditioning process includes changing the passenger door over to the opposite side, but not the driving cab. This remains on the right, even though Iran is a country where left-hand drive is standard. But converting the buses to left-hand drive would be too expensive.

IT HAPPENED THIS WEEK

Queen names new Exchange

JANUARY 23, 1571. LONDON —Today her Majesty Queen Elizabeth opened London's handsome new Bourse, or centre of trade, in Cornhill and ordered its name to be proclaimed, by herald and trumpet, as the "Royal Exchange."

The beautiful building has been put up at his own expense by the wealthy merchant, Sir Thomas Gresham.

The Queen, attended by her noblemen, came this morning in procession from Somerset House, entered the city at Temple Bar, and made her way to Bishopsgate

Street. There, in the magnificent mansion of Sir Thomas, she was entertained to dinner before the ceremony.

The new building was designed by a Flemish architect. Its quadrangle, surrounded by piazzas with pillars, is lined with 100 shops.

Thirty-eight houses and two gardens were cleared away to make a site for this new "Royal Exchange."

(The building was destroyed in the Great Fire; its successor was also burned down. The present Royal Exchange was opened by Queen Victoria.)

80 defeat Zulu army

JANUARY 24, 1879. LADY-SMITH, NATAL—News reached here today of a victory won by 80 men of the 24th Regiment over an army of 4000 Zulus.

The battle was fought at Rorke's Drift, a little station on the Buffalo River in Zululand, where a small garrison of the forces invading the Zulu King Cetewayo's territory had been left under command of two young officers, Lieutenant Chard of the Royal Engineers and Lieutenant Bromhead.

Two days ago news reached

them that the 1st Battalion of the 24th Foot had been almost wiped out in a surprise Zulu attack at Isandhlwana.

The two lieutenants, convinced that the Zulus would now attempt to invade Natal by way of Rorke's Drift, prepared to defend their post until help reached them.

By dawn yesterday they had driven the Zulus away, leaving 351 dead on the field. Six times during the night the attackers penetrated the defences.

Each time they were driven out at the point of the bayonet.

Gas lighting in London

JANUARY 28, 1807. LONDON —London's elegant Pall Mall, haunt of the fashionable world, has set another fashion tonight. Its whole length, from St. James's Palace to Cockspur Street, now glows with illumination cast by a new type of lamp—the gas lamp.

The installation of this lighting is the result of the enthusiastic efforts of a German engineer, Frederick Albert Winsor, who first exhibited his gas lamps at the Lyceum Theatre four years ago.

His idea of using them for street

lighting met with much criticism. Among the eminent men who opposed it was the novelist Sir Walter Scott, who declared that a "madman" was proposing to light London "with smoke!"

Mr. Winsor claims to have invented gas lighting, but the first man to recognise the value of gas and apply it to practical use for lighting is the 52-year-old Ayrshire inventor, Mr. William Murdock, who lit his house and offices at Redruth in Cornwall with gas 15 years ago.

FRAGMENT FROM THE ABBEY

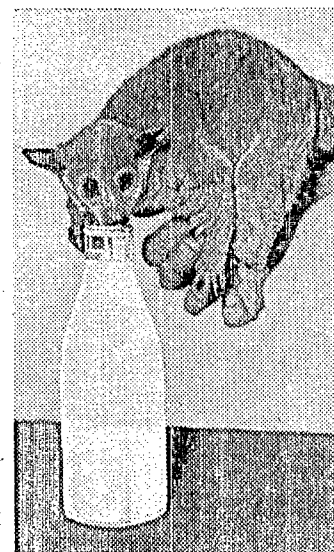
A piece of stone, about the size of a brick, travelled to Auckland, New Zealand, in the cargo liner Haparangi. But it was no ordinary stone for it had been part of Westminster Abbey.

This fragment had been removed during repairs and now it has been sent halfway round the world to become the foundation stone of the new church of St. Saviours, Blockhouse Bay, in the suburbs of Auckland city.

TOURIST MILLIONS

More than a million tourists came to this country last year; it is reckoned that they spent £107,000,000. The British Travel and Holidays Association estimates that of every pound spent 9s. went to the hotel and catering industry, 4s. to shops, 4s. to inland transport, and 3s. to entertainments and miscellaneous services.

Milktime for Wilkie



While everybody else at the Children's Zoo at Regent's Park enjoys a cup of tea, Wilkie, the bush baby, likes the cream off the top of the milk.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO A LAND OF PROMISE

ON Friday the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are due to leave London by air for Lagos to begin an 18-day tour of Nigeria; and wherever they go in this great West African country, they can be sure of a wonderful welcome from the many tribes who, under British leadership, have been welded into one nation keenly alive to its progress and its possibilities.

With the Trusteeship territory of the Cameroons, Nigeria has an area of 373,250 square miles, practically four times that of the United Kingdom. As the map shows, the Royal party will travel many hundreds of miles in this wild, fascinating country.

Excitingly varied scenes await them. This is a land of many rivers—the two greatest being the Niger and its tributary, the Benue—and the Royal visitors will see them thronged with steamers, barges, motor-boats, and native canoes. They will see something, too, of the thousands of croco-

varied peoples, perhaps, are the Yorubas, celebrated for their carvings; the intelligent and industrious Hausas, famed for their skill as traders; and the Fulani, once great conquerors, who are believed to have come originally from North Africa.

These tribes speak different languages—though English is widely understood—and are of many religions. But all are united under the British flag.

British influence in Nigeria began towards the end of the 18th century, when English traders settled on the coast. At the be-

of Ministers and a House of Representatives with 184 elected members.

Nigeria is also linked, under British Trusteeship, with the former German colony of the Cameroons. This adjoining territory might be nicknamed banana-land; in 1954 the total crop was worth nearly £2,863,000.

But the whole country has abounding natural wealth which should assure a prosperous future. The main products are ground-nuts, cocoa, palm kernels, tin ores, logs, hides, and rubber. Britain is Nigeria's best customer, taking almost 70 per cent of her exports in 1954. In return, Nigeria is a valuable customer of Britain's.

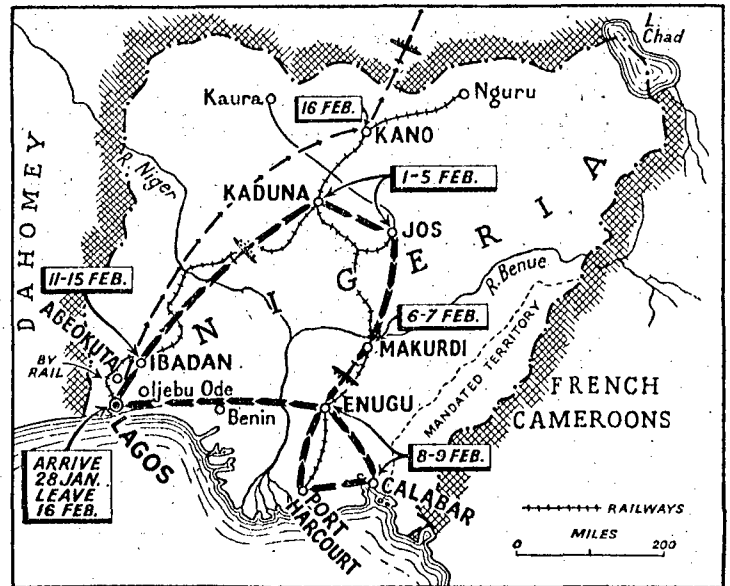
SEAPORT CAPITAL

The capital of Nigeria is the fine seaport of Lagos. There, at Government House, the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend a State dinner soon after their arrival on January 28.

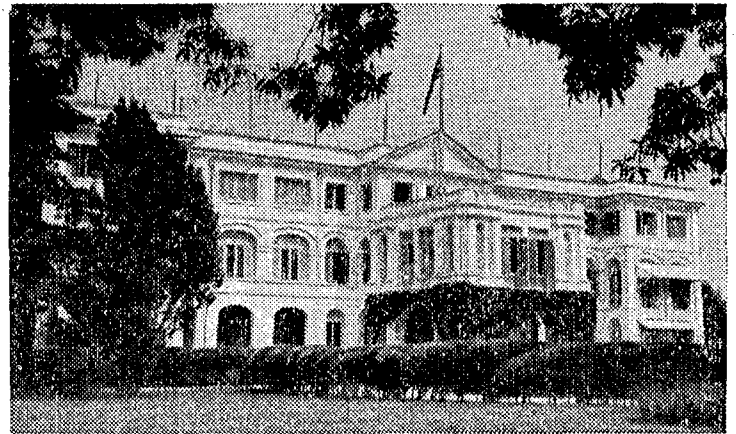
On February 1 the Royal party will fly to Kaduna, capital of the Northern Region, where they will stay for three or four days; there they will watch a rally of school-children. Then will come a two-day visit to Enugu, where they will inspect a colliery. After that they will fly back to Lagos, stopping briefly on the way at the old city of Benin, once notorious for its customs involving human sacrifice.

On February 11 they will travel by train to Ibadan, capital of the Western Region of Nigeria. While there the Queen will open the new Parliament building of the region. She will also visit the University College, which now has over 500 students working for University of London degrees.

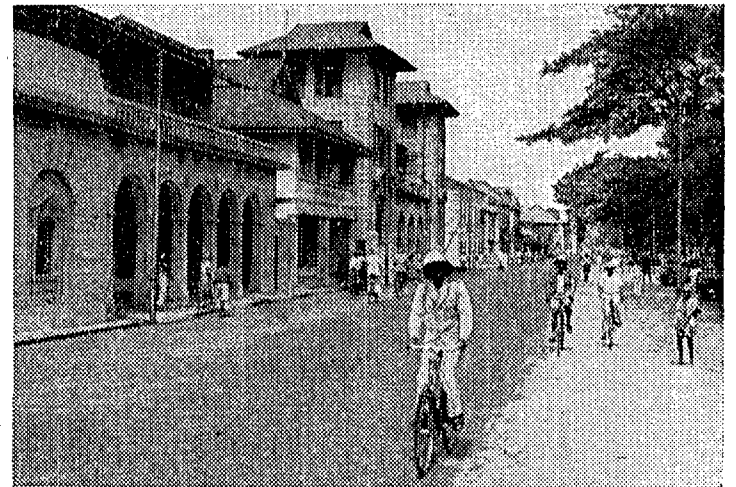
The Royal tour will end on February 16, and we may be sure that it will have proved a joyful occasion for the Nigerians and the visitors alike. Nigeria is a land of promise, a country where Africans and Britishers are working together in harmony to create a great modern State with a great future.



Map showing the royal route through Nigeria



Government House, Lagos. From here, on the eve of her departure, the Queen will broadcast to the people of Nigeria



One of the wide streets in Lagos, the capital



These Nigerians are typical of the people the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will see on their tour

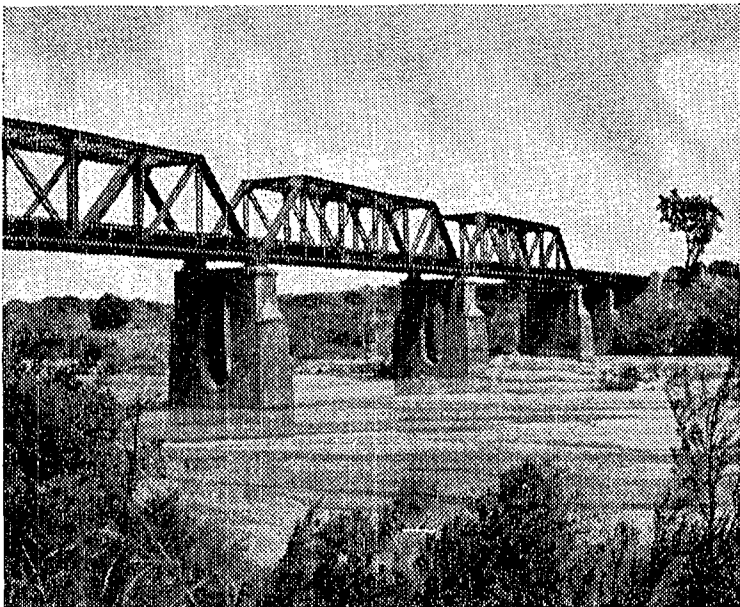
dile-haunted creeks that intersect the strip of mangrove swamps, ten to 60 miles broad, along the coast.

They will also fly over the belt of forest, rich in oil palms, which lies behind the swamps. From their plane they will look down on the vast area of open woodlands and grassy, park-like plains which eventually merges into the Sahara, in the extreme north of the country.

The Africans they will meet will be representative of 250 different tribal groups that make up the population of nearly 32 millions. The best-known of these

ginning of the following century came the famous Scottish explorer Mungo Park, the first white man to penetrate far into the interior of what was then unknown territory.

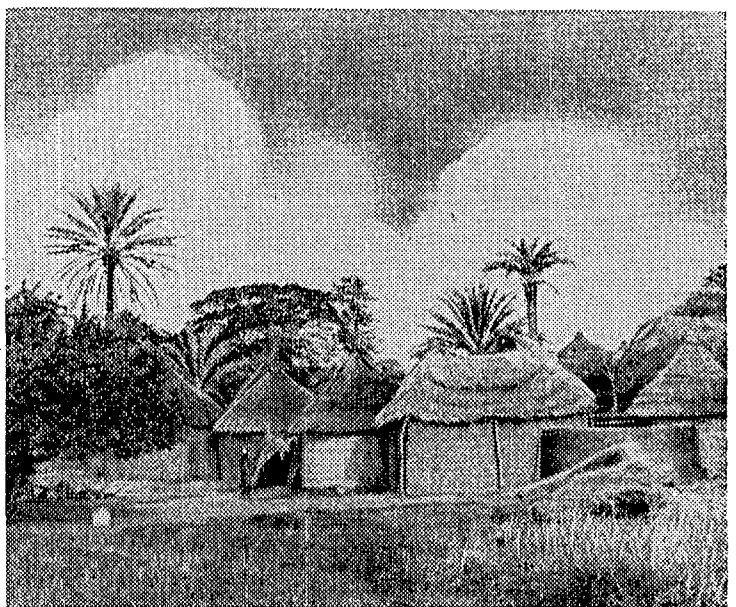
In 1861 the British Government secured Lagos as a base for operations against slave traders, afterwards making treaties with powerful chiefs. The Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria was proclaimed in 1914, and 40 years later a great measure of self-government was granted, when the present Federation came into being. Now there is a Council



The road and railway bridge over the Kaduna River



A huge statue in Benin



A village in the heart of Nigeria

Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
Whitefriars . London . EC4
JANUARY 28 1956

FROZEN HISTORY

How exciting it must be to get one authentic peep into the past! That was our first thought as we read The Daily Telegraph account of the American Antarctic explorers' discovery of a wooden hut built by Sir Ernest Shackleton on Ross Island.

In this hut they found everything much as it had been left nearly 50 years ago by "one of the greatest explorers ever to leave his footprints in snowy Antarctica."

These visitors of 1956, who had flown by helicopter from their ship in McMurdo Sound, saw just what Shackleton saw when he sat there thinking of the problems ahead while blizzards raged outside the flimsy planks; the same scene that had grown familiar to him as he planned the dash that was to carry him to within 100 miles of the Pole.

In these days of wonder, when science makes it possible for explorers to make detailed records of their journeyings, in sound and moving-picture, it is still thrilling to think of a fragment of history preserved by Nature herself.

Looking around that hut and seeing everything still intact—the tins of food, the boxes of soap, the picture-postcards hanging from the ceiling—those American flyers must have felt that Time itself had frozen, and stood still.

DOWN IN THE NEW FOREST

ON a summer's day in the year 1100 a charcoal-burner named William Purkis was driving his cart through the New Forest when he found a man lying dead with an arrow in his body.

It was the king, William Rufus, second son of the Conqueror. Purkis placed the body in his cart and carried it to Winchester.

Now, 856 years later, the death has occurred at the age of 93 of Mr. George Alfred Purkess, a descendant of the charcoal-burner. For many years Mr. Purkess lived in the Hampshire village of Chandler's Ford, on the edge of the New Forest, and it was there in 1899 that he played a leading part in re-opening a right-of-way that had been closed by a landowner.

That right-of-way was on the route by which the charcoal-burner had taken the dead king eight centuries before.

Think on These Things

WE read in St. Luke's Gospel that when Jesus was a boy He went with His parents to Jerusalem. There they missed Him but He was at last found in the Temple talking with the learned Jewish teachers and asking them questions. When His mother asked Him why He had remained behind, His simple answer was: "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" Or as we might say: "Did you not know that I must be doing my Father's work?"

So it must be with us. The question we have to ask is, not so much "what do I want to do," but "what does God want me to do."

Like Jesus we must work to do God's will. Then like Him we shall grow "in wisdom and stature, in favour with God and man."

O. R. C.

Anne and John are in the lead

MARY is no longer in the lead. According to the list that Mr. J. W. Leaver of Ruislip compiles every year from the columns of The Times, Ann (or Anne) is now the most popular Christian name for girls, followed by Mary, Jane, Elizabeth, Caroline, Sarah, Susan, Margaret, Frances, Clare.

John still leads the boys, the nine next most popular names being David, James, Charles, Richard, Michael, Christopher, Peter, Andrew, and Anthony.

Looking the part



Two-year-old Diana Parker dressed as Queen Victoria at a recent party in London

Thirty Years Ago

From the Children's Newspaper, January 30, 1926

A NEW ZEALAND chemist has hit upon an invention which is said to have the power of waterproofing every material of which clothing is made. Silk, artificial silk, lisle thread, mercerised cotton, any kind of cotton, woollens, or worsted, will, when treated with this friendly chemical, become impervious to rain.

THEY SAY . . .

THE average Scot eats too many cakes, buns, and pastries and not enough meat, potatoes, vegetables, and oatmeal porridge.

Bulletin of the Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Health for Scotland

I STILL believe that a man who uses his brain during the day at an interesting job can become a better athlete than he who spends all his time in sport.

Chris Brasher, in a letter to The Times

OUR speed limit is 25 miles per hour, with a fine of three dollars per mile for faster driving. Pick out a speed you can afford.

Sign just outside a town in the United States

PREACHING will never become old-fashioned, but it is the duty of those who preach to make sure that they do not become old-fashioned.

Rev. Maurice Wood, Vicar of Islington

QUIZ CORNER

1. Which calendar is in present use, Roman, Julian, or Gregorian, and when was it adopted in England?
2. What is the difference between hay and straw?
3. Do our fingerprints change as we grow older?
4. How many claws has a cat?
5. What is the name of the Prime Minister's official country residence and where is it?
6. What are the two sides of a coin called (apart from heads and tails)?

Answers on page 12

Out and About

THE sun is light red, like a glowing rose, in the thin mist, but hoar frost from the early morning still leaves a silver tracery along plant stems and tree twigs.

Near the stream some silvery knobs on the willows might seem to be frosted, but they are the first stage of the silver "palm" catkins of Easter. Other catkins, especially the hazel, have broken free of their cases and dangle as "lamb's tails" already.

Best of all just now, a missel thrush on a holly bush is singing, though not so boldly and sweetly as the robin perched on the roadside elm, or so persistently as a little wren in the hedgerow.

C. D. D.

JUST AN IDEA

As the gipsy proverb has it: If people do not know much, do not laugh at them, for every one of them knows something that you do not.

Next Week's Birthdays

January 29

Sir William Rothenstein (1872-1945). British painter and art teacher. He became famous as a portrait painter of celebrities over a period of half a century. His work will be a valuable illustration to the history of our time. He was Principal of the Royal College of Art.

January 30

Richard Hearne (1909). Comedian of the stage, radio, and television and well-known as Mr. Pastry. His father was an acrobat, and for two years, between the age of ten and twelve, he appeared in the circus with him.

January 31

Franz Schubert (1797-1828). Austrian composer. By the time he was 20 he had written six symphonies. He was destined to die at 32, but during his short life he produced songs, symphonies, and chamber music which are among the greatest in the world.



February 1

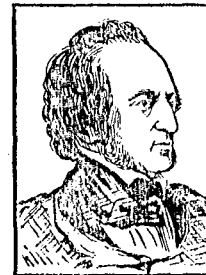
Rt. Hon. Louis St. Laurent (1882). Prime Minister of Canada and leader of the Canadian Liberal Party since 1948. He began his career as a lawyer. His first office was Minister of Justice. Later he became Secretary of State for External Affairs. Seventeen universities, Oxford among them, have awarded him honorary LL.D.s.

February 2

Hannah More (1745-1833). Dramatist, religious writer, and educational reformer. She was one of the learned "Blue Stockings" who were friends of the great Doctor Johnson. David Garrick produced two of her plays.

February 3

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847). German composer. Made his first public appearance at a concert at nine, and wrote his first symphony at 15. Born into a wealthy family he was able to travel, and his Scottish Symphony and the famous overture, Fingal's Cave, recall his visit to the Hebrides. He frequently conducted in London and Birmingham.



February 4

Sir Hartley Shawcross (1902). Politician and lawyer. Labour M.P. for St. Helens since 1945. He was the United Kingdom's Chief Prosecutor during the War Crimes trials in Nuremberg, 1945-1946.



OUR HOMELAND

The Thames at Cookham, Berkshire, where the Spade Oak Ferry provides a link with Bourne End, Buckinghamshire.

The Children's Newspaper, January 28, 1956

New Nature Series by **THE HUT MAN**

WITH THE SQUIRRELS IN FARAWAY WOOD

"From my earliest childhood I have felt drawn towards the things of Nature," writes Fabre in his *Book of Insects*. So have I; and that is why I forsook the city and came to live in a small hut amid the varied countryside which, since my first broadcast in 1935, has been known as the *Hut Country of Children's Hour*. Now it is going to be the *Hut Country of Children's Newspaper* as well, for I shall organise monthly excursions to the scenes of interesting encounters with the wild creatures who are my nearest neighbours—encounters that may also be experienced by CN readers who love to visit the countryside in all seasons and weathers. And for the first I would have you accompany me to my favourite corner, the great circle of giant beech trees which I call *Faraway Wood*.

It was on a bitterly cold January day that I crossed the open space in the centre of the wood, ploughing through the frosted bracken. Mowgli, my black-and-tan cocker, was expending his energy on a hopeless rabbit chase, and I was about to call him to heel again when, just beyond the bracken tangle, I surprised two red squirrels grubbing among the grass at the foot of a beech tree bole.

These engaging little animals are far from common in *Hut Country*, even during summer; to find them active in January was an exciting experience that I had not expected, and I stopped short, hoping they had not seen me.

I was too late, however. With a flutter of dead leaves one of them sprang for the trunk, streaked up it to the first great bough, and racing from branch to branch disappeared in the direction of the wood's few pine trees. Its mate, and I think the male, watched me for several seconds; then he, too, leapt to the trunk and quickly disappeared. Everything was very quiet and still.

WHERE HAS HE GONE?

I waited, watching, every moment expecting to see him again among the branches, but as he remained hidden I assumed he was crouching behind the tree and began to walk slowly round it, all the while keeping a sharp lookout. When I had circled the trunk without glimpsing him things began to grow interesting. Where had he gone? Not up to the

branches, and certainly not into the ground; but how, then, had I missed him?

Once again I wandered slowly round the beech, watching keenly for any sign of russet fur, and once again I returned to my starting point, baffled. It was then that Mowgli joined in the game of hide-and-seek, racing up noisily on the far side of the tree from where I stood, causing Squirrel to be caught between two fires, a position from which he could not escape without disclosing himself to Mowgli or myself.

STORMING AT US

There was a frenzied rush and scutter up the trunk, and there on the first bough, high above us, the annoyed little animal stamped and scolded; but whether he was storming at Mowgli for spoiling his game, or at me for winning by unfair advantage, I could not be sure. No doubt we were both being told off.

That was the first time I had seen a squirrel adopt tactics which since then have amused me on several occasions, and CN readers will now know what to expect should they encounter one in similar circumstances.

But what are these tactics? Just these.

When surprised on the ground, and imagining that we are merely passing and not interested in him, a squirrel does not always bolt for the branches. Instead, leaping for the trunk he clings there about three feet above ground, on the side farthest from the intruder, and

Continued at foot of next column

WINGED TRACTOR TO AID THE FARMER

A "winged tractor" has been built in Britain by Edgar Percival Aircraft Ltd. In it Farmer Jones can carry his sheep, pigs, and poultry to market; collect fuel; deliver fencing; go crop-spraying; fly a family of six to town; or improve the quality of his soil by top-dressing.

Called the P.9, it is one of the two new British aircraft built for agricultural users in the Commonwealth—particularly those in New Zealand. The other machine, a manoeuvrable two-seater, for fertilising and crop-spraying only, is the low-wing Auster Agricola.

POD-AND-BOOM FUSELAGE

Designed by Edgar Percival—the designer of the famous pre-war series of racing and touring aircraft—the P.9 is easily recognisable by its novel pod-and-boom fuselage. To provide the pilot with the best possible view, his cockpit is as far forward as it can be, above the level of the engine and his load. The main cabin (or cargo) space runs beneath the floor of the cockpit, access to the cabin being provided by two large doors at the rear and a side door.

Powered by a 270 h.p. Lycoming engine, the P.9 will have a top speed of 138 m.p.h., and be able to land on short grass airstrips at less than 40 m.p.h.

GIANTS DOWN AT KEW

In 1945 some Chinese botanists travelling through Szechwan found specimens of the giant Dawn Redwood tree (*Metasequoia glyptostroides*) which was thought to be extinct.

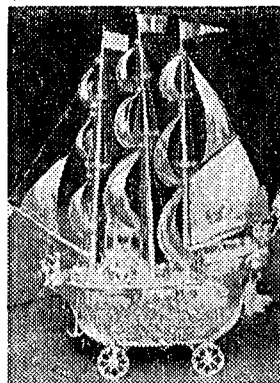
Seeds of the trees were sent to Kew Gardens and took root. Now, ten years later, a dozen are flourishing there, already grown to a height of 14 feet.

there he hangs, listening, with all four red legs straddled, edging carefully round and round as he hears our footsteps approaching, keeping his tree's stout buttress continually in between.

Walking round the tree at a normal pace it is quite impossible to see him; it is almost as if he had disappeared into space.

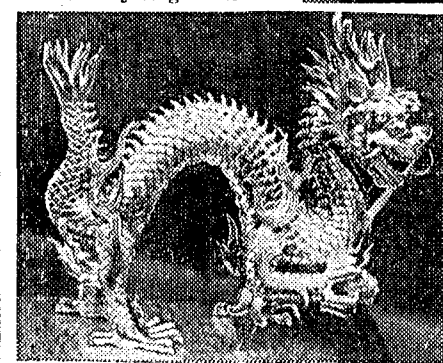
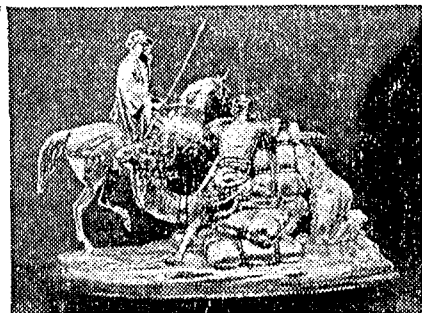
It is but one of many amusing games which I have enjoyed, and in which I have been frequently worsted during encounters with the playful and delightful squirrel.

Services silver on show

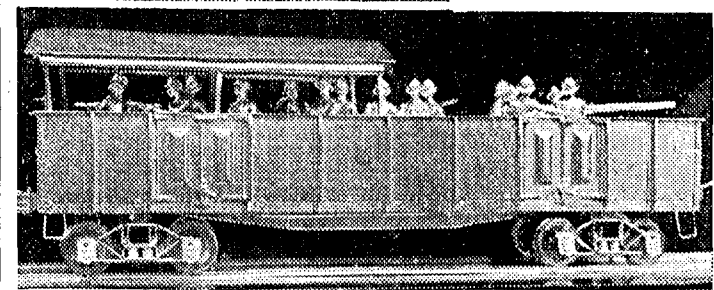


Above. The silver Nef (old word for ship) used as a wine flagon on H.M.S. Excellent. The prow forms the spout. Right. A centre piece, the Halt in the Desert, which comes from the officers' mess of the East Surrey Regiment.

An exhibition of silver from the messes of the three Services is being held in London at the Royal Academy until January 31. There are some 500 pieces, and they are valued at £100,000. The exhibition has been organised by the Soldiers', Sailors', and Airmen's Families Association.



Left. This dragon, a model of one in the Summer Palace at Peking, was presented to the Royal Engineers after service in China. Below. The 1st Battalion the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment lent this fine model of an armoured train, a replica of the one used by the regiment in China in 1927.



YOUNG PIANIST'S SUCCESS

Eileen Ramage, a 12-year-old Edinburgh girl, recently gave a piano recital to more than 400 people in the Assembly Rooms, Leith.

She has been playing for only two years, but is already an accomplished performer of Haydn, Beethoven, Mozart, Mendelssohn, and Brahms.

The proceeds of her recital went to the funds of the Guide Dogs for the Blind.

OLD NOTES WILL MAKE THEMSELVES HEARD

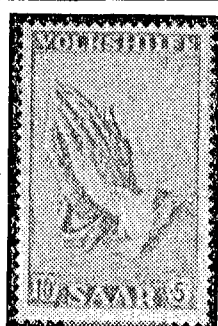
A small brown paper parcel arrived with the letters sent in response to Sir Walter Monckton's broadcast appeal for funds to provide 5000 radio sets for the blind. Inside was an envelope stuffed with 10s. notes—140 blue ones of an old type (although still legal tender), and enough to provide eight wireless sets. The only clue to the source was a smudged Cardiff postmark.

STAMP ALBUM

THE ARTIST AND
HIS
WORK



THESE STAMPS SHOW
A PORTRAIT OF
ALBRECHT DÜRER, THE GREAT GERMAN ARTIST,
AND ONE OF HIS BEST-KNOWN WORKS,
THE PRAYING HANDS. AN INTERESTING
COLLECTION CAN BE MADE OF SUCH
PAIRS, OFTEN FROM DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.



MINIATURE SHEETS



MANY STAMPS COMMEMORATE
TRADE FAIRS
AND EXHIBITIONS,
AND SOMETIMES THEY
ARE IN THE FORM OF
MINIATURE SHEETS. THE
ONE SHOWN HERE MARKED
THE 1950 LEIPZIG PHILATELIC
EXHIBITION AND INCLUDED
(ON THE LEFT) THE 1949
"DAY OF THE STAMP" ISSUE.

CHANNEL ISLANDS HOSPITAL FOR THE BIRDS

The work of a lady who runs a Bird Hospital in the Channel Islands is described in the Guernsey Evening Press. She is Miss Marjorie Ozanne of Bon Air, Les Adams, St. Peter's, Guernsey.

Injured birds are sent to her from Alderney and Sark as well as Guernsey, and recently most of her patients have been oiled seabirds. "Only two have succumbed," she writes "and the rest are doing well after being shorn of their poor oiled-up feathers, and gather round their dish of sprats with joyful croaks."

Some of the gannets show no wish to leave, even when freed of tar and oil. They have been sleeping in a shed and when she feeds them her cats wait under the great beaks for the last fish, which they know will be dropped when the birds have had enough.

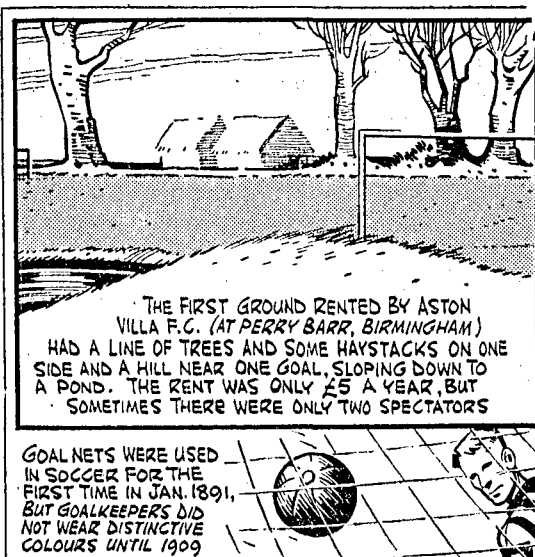
CHANGE OF DIET

Another new patient is a barn-owl with a damaged wing. Feeding him has been rather difficult as he insists on mice. However, a cat has come to the rescue, catching mice and exchanging them for sprats. Less fussy over diet is a cornerake which has learned to eat bread and milk in addition to the worms Miss Ozanne digs for him.

Like many hospitals, this one has to have voluntary helpers. Friends send fish for the birds and hotel proprietors keep collecting boxes, for Miss Ozanne's labour of love is known throughout the Channel Islands. It deserves to be even more widely known.

PAINT THAT YOU CANNOT SPILL

A paint which, it is claimed, will never spill, even if the tin is turned upside down, has been produced by a Devon firm. It enables brushes to hold 50 per cent more paint than usual, and as there are no drips, overalls need not be worn.



Sporting Flashbacks

THE F.A. CUP FINAL OF 1912 — BARNSELY v. WEST BROMWICH ALBION — WAS THE LONGEST AND MOST EVENLY CONTESTED OF ALL, OCCUPYING A TOTAL PLAYING TIME OF 210 MINUTES ...

90 MINUTES FOR THE FIRST MEETING (DRAWN 0-0), ANOTHER 90 FOR THE REPLAY (STILL NO SCORE), THEN ANOTHER 30 MINUTES OF EXTRA TIME, WHEN

HARRY TUFNELL WON THE MATCH FOR BARNSELY, WITH ALMOST THE LAST KICK

NO CLUB EVER WORKED SO HARD TO WIN THE CUP, FOR IN THE EARLIER ROUNDS BARNSELY HAD TWO MATCHES WITH BIRMINGHAM, ONE EACH WITH LEICESTER AND BOLTON, FOUR WITH BRADFORD CITY (PREVIOUS HOLDERS) AND TWO WITH SWINDON

100 YEARS OF THE VICTORIA CROSS

January 29 is the hundredth birthday of the Victoria Cross, for it was on that day in 1856 that Queen Victoria instituted the award for "conspicuous bravery, or devotion to country, in the presence of the enemy." It is the highest British decoration, worn in front of all other orders and decorations.

To celebrate this centenary, the Queen is to review holders of the Victoria Cross in Hyde Park on June 26. V.C.s from all over the Commonwealth are to be invited. It is reckoned that about 400 holders are still living.

June, with its hope of sunshine, has been chosen instead of January for the celebration because many of these gallant veterans are now getting on in years.

The Victoria Cross, most famous of medals, is made of bronze. In the centre it has the royal crown surmounted by a lion, with the words FOR VALOUR inscribed on a scroll. The ribbon is 1½ inches wide.

Queen Victoria decreed that every Cross should be struck from the metal of the cannon we captured from the Russians at

Sevastopol and this has been followed except for a short period during the First World War.

The first presentation was held in Hyde Park on June 26, 1856, when 62 Crosses were given for brave deeds done during the Crimean campaign.

The Cross can, of course, be won posthumously, that is, the award can be published after the brave man's death. In fact, the great number of posthumous awards shows that this highest of all our country's distinctions is often won at the price of



supreme sacrifice. Thus, of the 1345 awards of the Victoria Cross since its inception a hundred years ago, 289 have been posthumous. In the First World War 623 gained the Victoria Cross—173 posthumously. In the Second World War there were 82 posthumous awards out of a total of 179. The Cross

was awarded four times for conspicuous bravery in Korea.

There have been only three cases of a bar being added to a previous award. One was that of Captain C. H. Upham of the New Zealand Forces, and the other two were both Royal Army Medical Corps officers. In all, the R.A.M.C. are proud to claim 42 recipients of the V.C.

There are three cases of this great award won by father and son, and two cases of brother V.C.s.

Although the Victoria Cross was originally intended as an award for great gallantry in the face of the enemy, between the years 1858 and 1881 the award was authorised for acts of bravery not in the presence of the enemy. Six men received the Cross, in these circumstances, in the years 1866 and 1867.

In 1920 a Royal Warrant made it possible for the V.C. to be awarded to members of the Nursing Services and to any civilian of either sex serving under the direction of one of the armed forces. Four civilians have actually been decorated with the V.C. but, so far, no woman has won it.

VILLAGE CRADLE OF OUR ENGLISH BIBLE

The Manor of Little Sodbury in Gloucestershire is a precious corner of England. There William Tyndale probably planned his translation of the Bible, and it is good to hear that it is among the historic buildings which recently received preservation grants amounting to some £90,000 from the Ministry of Works.

Tyndale came to this Cotswold manor in 1521 as chaplain and family tutor to Sir John Walsh, and while he was there began preaching to the countryfolk. As a result he was charged with heresy; but he was acquitted and in 1523 went to London to carry out his great work on the Scriptures.

TYNDALE'S VISION

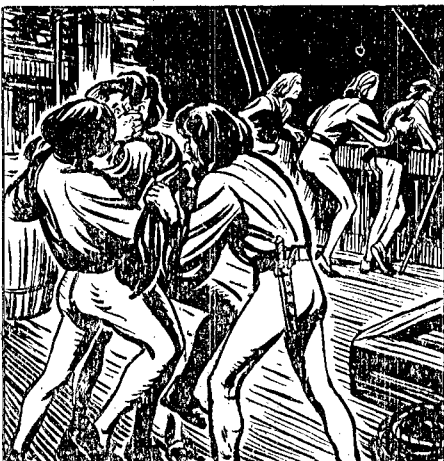
This beautiful old gabled house at Little Sodbury is a deeply impressive place. Between these walls Tyndale had his vision of every Englishman's home with its own Bible, printed in the common speech of everyday life. Here he cried out once that if God spared his life, he would see that a boy who drove the plough should know more of the Scriptures than many of the priests.

Many parts of the house still remain as he knew them. There is the attic where he worked, with the same oak staircase leading to it, and there is a 15th-century hall with steeply pitched roof resting on carved stone angels. Altogether, it is a place of hallowed memories.

ATOMIC POWER FOR YUGOSLAVIA

Yugoslavia has arranged to buy an atomic reactor from Russia for industrial use. Atomic research institutes are now established at Belgrade, Ljubljana, and Zagreb. All atomic fuel requirements will be met from the country's own uranium deposits.

THE LION OF ST MARK—new picture-version of G. A. Henty's thrilling story (5)



The Venetians overpowered the sleepy sentries and sailed the Lido out of the harbour unnoticed by the other Genoese ships. One of their men ashore lit a fire to guide them to the rocks, behind which they hid their vessel. Francis went with some of the crew to the clifftop to ensure that any passing peasant who happened to see the Lido, should not inform the Genoese at Gergenti of where she lay concealed.



Soon after dawn a Genoese galley appeared, searching for the escaped prize. But she passed the rocks without stopping—Francis's ruse had worked. Afterwards the Lido sailed safely home. When, at last, war was declared between Venice and Genoa, the Venetian fleet under the famous Admiral Pisani sailed in search of the Genoese fleet. Later Francis was sent as second officer in the Bonito to take supplies to Pisani.



The Bonito arrived at the Bay of Antium, near Rome, just as a battle was beginning between Pisani's fleet and the Genoese. The Bonito being only a merchant ship, her captain said she must keep out of the fighting. But soon her crew saw Pisani's flagship attacked by two Genoese war galleys, one on each side. Francis urged the captain to go to the Admiral's help. He agreed, and the Bonito sailed to the scene.



Drawing alongside one of the Genoese galleys, the Bonito's men lashed their vessel to her. Instantly a shower of Genoese arrows swept their decks, and the captain fell pierced through his throat. "Pour in one volley," shouted Francis, "then throw down your bows and take your axes and follow me." He sprang onto the deck of the enemy ship, followed by his friend Matteo and the whole crew of the Bonito.

What can these sailors do against men in armour? See next week's instalment

Adventure in the Derbyshire hills

BLUE JOHN SECRET

by Garry Hogg

My sister Nessa and I, with our guardian Bruce, have arrived in Derbyshire to stay with friends of Bruce's, Mr. and Mrs. Brownlow and their son John. The morning after our arrival John warns us to eat a huge breakfast as we have a long trip ahead of us.

4. John Opens Up

"SANDWICHES for three, today, John?" asked his mother, towards the end of breakfast.

"How—?" Nessa began, beneath her breath.

John's mother smiled, and looked fondly across at him. "Or you can have lunch at home, if you would rather. Doris will give it to you. I am taking the car in to Sheffield for servicing, after dropping Daddy and Bruce at the gliding-ground, and picking them up at the end of the afternoon. Or, of course, you can all come in to Sheffield and mooch around with me, if you would rather."

"No thanks," said John quickly. "Sandwiches, please."

"Showing Nessa and Lance our corner of Derbyshire, old man?" said John's father.

"Pro'bly," he answered, not wanting to give anything away.

"Keep a look out for us overhead then," said Bruce. He turned to Dick Brownlow. "What shall we be flying?"

"Cadet or Falcon III in all

probability," Dick answered. "As you have not done any flying except as a passenger for the past few years, I think we had better begin with a little ridge-soaring."

"Doesn't it sound thrilling!" said Nessa.

"Why," Dick said, looking across at her with an amused smile, "you are not interested in gliding, are you, Nessa?"

"I jolly well am!" she answered. "And so is Lance!"

"John says you have promised to take us up some time while we are here," I said.

Various pursuits

"That's odd," said his father, pretending to be indignant. "It is most unlike John to let cats out of bags."

"I'm jolly glad he did, though!" I said, and everyone laughed.

"Dick will have his hands fully occupied with me, to begin with," Bruce said. "I haven't had the recent opportunities that he has had, remember."

Then breakfast was over and we all set about our various pursuits. John waited till the car had gone, with Bruce and his father and mother on board, and then led us briskly to the kitchen, where we collected a terrific supply of sandwiches, biscuits, plum cake, bananas, and apples.

"Thanks, Doris," John said, when we had loaded up. "Do the same for you, some time." The cook was still laughing at what he had said as we slipped out through the back door, round the corner of the house beneath the high rock on which we had caught our first glimpse of him, and set off at a brisk trot across a sloping field bounded by high stone walls.

What started as a brisk trot, though, developed into something a good deal more strenuous. In fact, it became a sort of cross-country race, with John battling ahead in a jerky, stiff-legged canter that we found hard to keep up with. But if there was one thing we were determined not to do it was to give any sign that we were not up to his standards in training. We would keep up, or burst in the attempt!

Their destination

Soon the house in the quarry was far behind us, only its chimneys appearing now and then as we rounded the shoulder of a rise for a moment, or scrambled over a wall. It was up, up, up all the time: never-endingly up—UP in capital letters!

"Where . . . are . . . we . . . we . . . making . . . for?" gasped Nessa when, for the first time, John came to a halt.

"Squat and I'll show you," he answered, and we dropped onto an outcropping slab of gritty stone beside the track.

We gathered close together and I pulled out my map from inside

my windcheater and my compass from a pocket of my shorts. John seized the map and orientated it swiftly without bothering to look either at my compass or at his own.

"There," he said, planting a stubby finger on a dark patch of the map west and a little north of our starting-point.

Most of the ground under and near his finger was very dark brown—high ground, therefore, all of it. Some of it lay in long ridges, some in rounded patches marked something-or-other Low or something-or-other Tor.

"But where, exactly?" Nessa urged.

"Yes, come clean, won't you, John?" I said, backing her up. It was high time he did.

For a moment or two longer he remained silent. Then, obviously



"There," said John, planting a stubby finger on a dark patch of the map.

with a real effort, he opened up. "Exactly," he said, "there." He squeezed a line of small black print between two fingertips, and looked round at us, with a queer, guarded look on his face.

Roundabout route

"Bleakshaw Cavern," I read out. And repeated it: "Bleakshaw Cavern."

"How far is it still from here?" Nessa asked.

"Judging by the scale of this map," I said, "about three miles."

"More," said John, positively. "A lot more. Because, you see, from this point onwards we have got to walk warily, and take a roundabout route."

"Why?" Nessa jumped on him. "It isn't private property here, is it? If it is, I'm sure I can't see any houses for the people it belongs to."

"All the same," John answered, doggedly, "from now onwards we go warily."

"Since we have broken our journey," Nessa said brightly, "what about a knob of cake and a banana, to give us strength for the next lap?"

I knew she had something up her sleeve and was not just sug-

gesting we should rest. And sure enough, soon it became clear what she had intended. Over a knob of cake and a banana, two in fact, John became talkative. Or at least, quite talkative for him!

"All round this part of Derbyshire," he began, "there are ancient lead mines. You can see them everywhere on the map. Some of them, Dad told me, were worked in Roman times. And some—I happen to know—are more interesting than others."

"Why?" Nessa prompted him, biting off another mouthful of banana.

"Because—because there is Blue John in them," John said, and it was odd the way he said it. As though he had said something different from what he had been going to say.

"Blue John?"

A look of impatience crossed his face. Doubtless he was thinking we ought to have known all about this! "It is a rather rare mineral that was found by the old lead miners," he explained. "Ornaments are made out of it. Mother has got some. And in museums and places like that you can see vases and things made of it."

"Is Blue John what we are after then?" I asked.

Important paper

He shook his head. "There practically isn't any left nowadays," he said. "Only a scrap here and there. But people go and explore the old lead mines to see the stalactites and stalagmites in the caverns and tunnels opened up by the miners."

"Are those stalac-things what we are going to see?" Nessa asked. "Because if so, though I would quite like to see them, I can't understand the reason for all this secrecy. If other people go, why shouldn't we?"

For a moment or two it looked as though John was going to close up again, but luckily he did not. Instead, he fumbled in an inside pocket and eventually produced a crumpled bit of paper, which he smoothed out on his knee. "This,"

he said solemnly, "is probably the most important piece of paper you have ever seen in your lives or are ever likely to see."

"It doesn't look anything much to me," said Nessa, and turned away from it to watch a bird planing by far overhead, as though not a bit interested.

John looked rather taken aback, and I wondered whether he was going to pick himself up and bat off across the moor, leaving us behind and outside the mystery that seemed so important to him. But he did not. Instead, in short, jerky sentences, he explained.

"There is a chap in the next village to ours called Daft Sammy. He is not daft, of course, but what you might call a bit simple. And one day he told me that something valuable had been buried in Bleakshaw Cavern."

"What was it?" Nessa and I butted in together.

"He wouldn't say. Probably didn't even know. But he swears he hasn't told anyone but me."

Sworn to secrecy

"Well," Nessa said, "I expect if lots of people go to these caverns they will have seen it—if, of course, it really is there to see."

"Ah," said John. "The entrance has been blocked by a landslide. And as it was not one of the best caverns, no one thought it worth opening up again."

"Then what is the use of the three of us going to see it?" I said.

"Because—because I think I have discovered a back way into it. I am forcing a way in." He looked immensely solemn. "Promise faithfully you won't tell anyone—ever?" We promised, and he looked enormously relieved. "Right then. It is *our* secret and nobody else's. That is why we are going by a roundabout route, see?" And with that he jumped up, and we set off faster than before, heads low, along an almost invisible sheep-track.

To be continued

SECRET CODES AND SIGNALS**9. The Trellis Cipher**

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at Harrow, resting in

Jan is under
arr est

secret message into an innocent-looking letter.

The recipient of the letter must, of course, have an identical card. When the letter is read many of the words will be covered by the card but the remainder, appearing through the holes, give the text of the message.

**Her house in the garden**

Sandra Backhauser cleans the windows of her very own little house in the garden of her home at Dartford, Kent. It was built by her father and she takes great pride in it.



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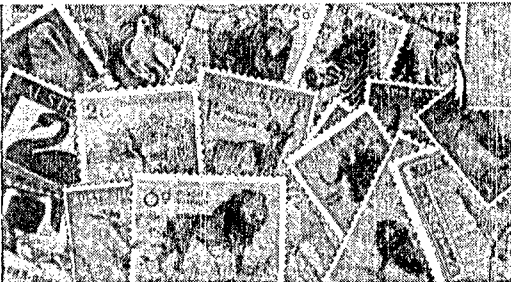
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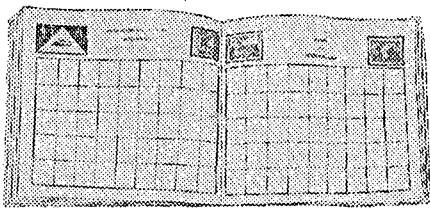
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WONDER CHILD OF MUSIC

ALL over the world musicians are paying tribute to the memory of Mozart, who was born at Salzburg, Austria, on January 27 just 200 years ago. And most of the tributes, fittingly, are performances of his works, his timeless music, clear, flowing, lovely as a crystal stream, and a joy for ever.

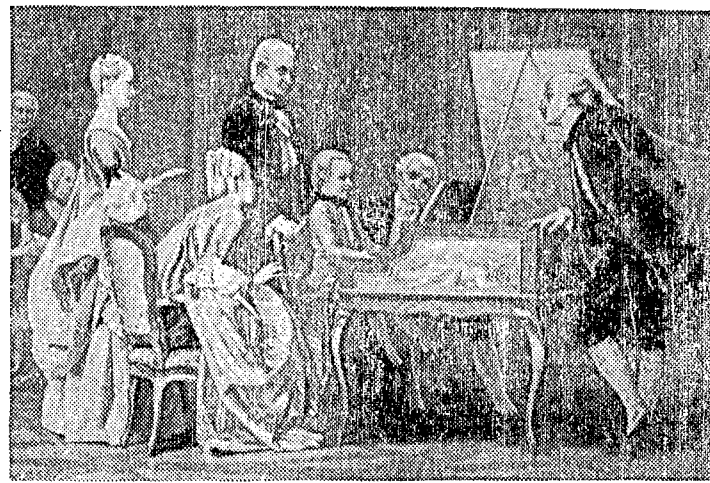
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was a musical prodigy who could compose before he knew how to write.

When only three he started to play the harpsichord and, before he was five, mastered a minuet and trio in half an hour.

Mozart's elder sister, Marianne, was also very musical, and the father of these gifted children was quick to realise their promise. So,

when he married, for his wife, besides being a bad manager, was constantly ill. They settled in Vienna, where life became a bitter struggle against debts so pressing that Mozart was often obliged to borrow from friends.

It is difficult to imagine the gay music we associate with his name coming from such a care-burdened heart. All day, and sometimes far into the night, he composed, per-



The boy Mozart giving a recital in Vienna

from the time he was six until he was 15, Mozart visited the capitals of Europe, performing on harpsichord, organ, and violin. He was equally at home in every branch of composition. In fact, he started so young that his father, a violinist in the services of the Archbishop of Salzburg, had to write down the notes for him.

The little boy often played before royalty and once, at Vienna, when he slipped on the polished floor of the palace, he was picked up by Marie Antoinette, one day to be Queen of France.

"You are very kind," he said, "and when I grow up I will marry you."

BEFORE THE KING AND QUEEN

When Mozart was eight he came to London, where he entertained George III by playing at sight anything put before him. He accompanied the queen in a song, and gave several concerts, while he also presented the British Museum with a motet he had written to English words.

When he was only 14 he wrote a full scale Italian opera at Milan and directed the orchestra which was to play it at La Scala opera house, to the astonishment of all concerned.

When he was 21 the young musician left Salzburg to seek some rewarding appointment. But, although requests for compositions and music lessons came his way, nobody offered him a settled job, and he was soon in financial difficulties.

Things became even worse

formed at concerts, or gave music lessons. About 600 of his works have been preserved, including 19 operas and over 50 symphonies, but he must have written many more.

EARLY DEATH

At 30 he had written Figaro, that magnificent opera; and during the next five years he produced Don Giovanni, Così Fan Tutte (They all do it), the last of his Italian operas, and The Magic Flute, greatest of his German operas.

Mozart's death, at the early age of 35, was accelerated by overwork and worry. Five months previously a mysterious visitor had asked him to compose a requiem, and he came to regard it as intended for himself. Although he worked at it feverishly it was never completed, and had to be taken away from him as he lay dying.

At his funeral a storm prevented the few mourners from following the coffin, which was therefore borne to its common pauper's grave alone.

To this day no one even knows the exact spot where this master of melody lies buried.

TELEVISION IN SWEDEN

Sweden has only recently started television broadcasts. At the end of December there were only 2500 sets in Stockholm, but 1956 will see a huge increase.

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SPORTS SHORTS

YET another of the famous Harvey family has scored a century for the well-known Fitzroy cricket club in Melbourne. He is 21-year-old Brian, who is following in the footsteps of his four brothers Ray, Mick, Mervyn, and Neil, of whom Mervyn and Neil have played in Tests for Australia. Brian might well become the third member of the family to become a Test star.

The right way



Expert advice on wicket-keeping is given to seven-year-old Simon Daynes by David Mantell, of the Sussex 2nd XI. Young Simon is taking advantage of the County Club's indoor training session at Hove.

GEORGE MUDDIMAN of the Long Buckby (Northants) Rugby Club, has set up what is possibly a national record. When a knee injury prevented him turning out for the Long Buckby team recently, he had made no fewer than 230 consecutive appearances for the team. Muddiman first played for his team at the age of 14.

ON Saturday the Irish Rugby XV will travel to Paris to meet France at the Colombes Stadium. Of the previous matches between the two countries, Ireland has won 17, France nine, with one drawn, but the Irishmen have been beaten in the last two games with France.

Magpie for the Magpies

A STUFFED magpie enclosed in a glass case has been presented to Newcastle United Football Club (the Magpies) by the Corporation of Hove. The bird is to commemorate Newcastle's victories at Wembley in 1952 and 1955, in which years the cup-holders trained at Hove.

BRITAIN'S four young tennis internationals—Roger Becker, Bobby Wilson, Billy Knight, and Michael Davies—will shortly undertake a twice-weekly training schedule at Stamford Bridge, under the guidance of the Chelsea F.C. trainers. The programme arranged for them will, it is hoped, enable them to reach peak fitness before the strenuous tennis season ahead. If the experiment proves a success, other young tennis players will be invited to join the training sessions, held at the suggestion of the Chelsea club officials.

IF Kent C.C.C. fail to improve on their Championship position this year it will not be because they lacked practice. Although the start of the season is still several months away, members of the team meet every Monday for intensive training in the nets. Several young players recommended by the Kent Schools Association are also receiving coaching on the concrete wickets.

ONE of the most popular cricketers in Lancashire is Mr. Norman Waterworth of Gisburn. Having lost his right leg in a road accident when he was five, he is handicapped by an artificial limb; but he has played for Gisburn for 22 seasons. He has scored 3600 runs, topped the batting averages eight times and the bowling averages eleven times. Recently he was presented with the ball which gave him his 1000th wicket.

The Olympic Winter Games

THE VIIIth Olympic Winter Games will start on Thursday and continue for nearly a fortnight at Cortina d'Ampezzo, in the Italian Dolomites. A record number of competitors, representing 33 countries, will take part as compared with 30 at the 1952 Games in Oslo. A special medal will be presented this year by the International Skiing Federation to the best all-round skier. Much interest will be shown in the British bobsleigh team. Led by Keith Schellenburg from Middlesbrough, the team is comprised of tough young Rugby players who have already covered the Olympic mile in 1 minute 16.7 seconds, only 2/10ths of a second outside the record. Their two four-man bobsleighs cost £700.

HOCKEY used to be the number one sport in Pakistan, but since their team's fine victory against New Zealand, cricket has ousted hockey as the chief national sport. Soccer is also gaining swift popularity, and hockey is now only third in popular appeal in Pakistan.

WHILE England still seek an effective pair of opening batsmen for the approaching Test series with Australia, in India a new world record for a first-wicket partnership has been set up by Vinoo Mankad and Pankaj Roy. In the final Test against New Zealand in Madras they put on 431 before being parted. The previous best for a Test opening partnership was 359, by Len Hutton and Cyril Washbrook, for England against South Africa in Johannesburg, during the 1948-49 tour.

Swing time

THOUSANDS of golfers may benefit soon because Charles Macey, professional at the Crowborough Beacon Golf Club, Sussex, listened to a Strauss waltz on television one evening.

He suddenly realised that the beat of the music fitted perfectly the swing of a golf club. So now when he teaches youngsters a portable gramophone accompanies them out to the practice ground and they drive off to the sound of The Blue Danube.

ENGLAND'S tennis future looks bright with the continued progress being made by those two brilliant youngsters Christine Truman and Michael Sangster, the singles winners at the recent British junior covered courts championships. Christine, aged 15, from Woodford Green in Essex, has been playing the game from an early age, for she comes from a tennis family. Michael Sangster, also aged 15, is another of the many good players who have come from Torquay, among whom is Miss Angela Mortimer, Britain's number one woman player. Michael has learned a great deal through playing with Angela.

AMERICA, too, has a 15-year-old player of whom great things are expected—Nancy O'Connell, a high school girl who recently won three titles in the U.S. Junior Indoor tournament. Nancy certainly receives expert advice, for her father is a tennis coach and plays with her five days a week.

Mother goes over the top

Mrs. Dorothy Tyler, the great high-jumper, is already training in the hope that she will be chosen for her fourth Olympics. Britain's senior woman athlete, she was runner-up in the 1936 and 1948 high jump championships, and has twice been European champion. Not long ago the Southern Counties Women's A.A.A. presented Mrs. Tyler with an engraved plaque to commemorate her completion of 21 years in international athletics. Her sons, David and Barry, hope for the best as mother sails over their heads.



LOOKING AT THE SKY

WHICH STAR IS THE BIGGEST?

"WHICH is the biggest of all the stars?" That is a question many an observer would like to have answered. And it so happens that the biggest known star that we ever see in Britain is just now almost overhead between 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening.

This is the star Epsilon in Auriga, the most northerly of the three third-magnitude stars forming the elongated triangle which represents the two "kids," as indicated on the star map of Auriga in the CN of January 14.

Epsilon appears reddish and its light varies between about 3.3 and 4.1 magnitude. So, as we see it, Epsilon is far from bright, but its characteristics—variability and reddishness—are usually found in what are known as the "giant" type of stars.

Epsilon has, in fact, a diameter 3000 times greater than our Sun.

LIGHT TRAVELLING 1629 YEARS

The reason for its comparative dimness is that Epsilon is at the immense distance of about 1629 light-years (103 million times farther off than our Sun). Little wonder that its light appears so much reduced when we see it.

The distance of Epsilon means, too, that it is not just where it appears to be, for this great sun has sped a long way southward since the light we now see left the "surface" of Epsilon in the year 327.

Though the term "surface" is used it is difficult to define where the outer surface of Epsilon in Auriga actually is; as well as being so extremely attenuated, it is constantly expanding to double its

size and contracting, in an everlasting 27-year cycle.

Consequently there is an entire absence of definition over an area of many thousands of millions of square miles. All is in a state of violent and, for most of the time, eruptive commotion and much of it from radiant forces emitted from "invisible fire," that is, infrared heat.

If we had an instrument that could present the star discs, or images, to the eye in their relative apparent sizes, then Betelgeuse, the bright yellowish star at the upper right-hand corner of Orion and almost due south of Capella, would be seen to be the biggest in the heavens. This is because it is so much nearer to us than most other "giant" stars.

ASTONISHED ASTRONOMERS

This star, the first to be measured by the wonderful interferometer apparatus, astonished astronomers by revealing a diameter 260 times greater than that of our Sun. Later on Antares, another reddish star which just now appears in the morning sky a little way to the west of Saturn and Mars, was found to have a diameter 430 times greater than our Sun.

These stellar "giants" are shown for comparison with Epsilon in Auriga in the accompanying diagram, in which our Sun would be quite invisible. But there is yet the great Canopus in the southern heavens to be considered later.

G. F. M.

TREASURE BENEATH THE WAVES

Divers off Bermuda have found a French or Spanish vessel which appears to have sunk about the year 1600. Among objects discovered in the wreck was a small gold cross encrusted with emeralds and valued at £8000.

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IN SHORT

SPOT THE . . .

CRACK !

TEASER

N. delaware Del.

BILLY GOES ROLLING ALONG

He raced across to Jean's house, returning a few moments later with her roller skates. Carefully he strapped them to the centre of



Patch, Brian Pollard's budgerigar, cannot understand where all the notes come from. When Brian stops playing, Patch retires to the top of his cage, chattering angrily.

WHAT AM I?

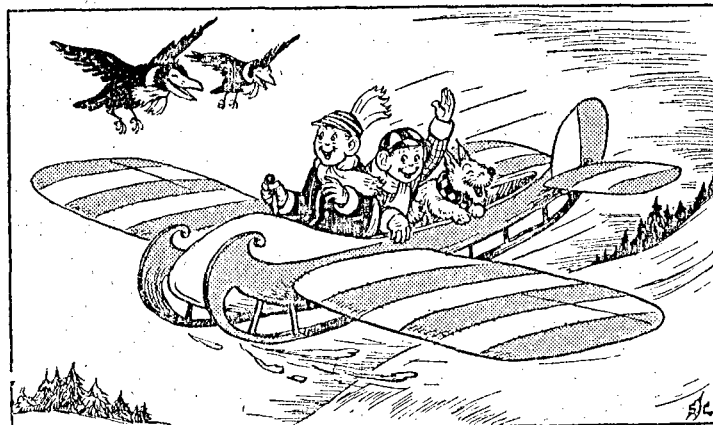
Answer in column 5

HOWLER

LITTLE GIRL'S PLIGHT

I wonder what they're saying,
(Or would if they could speak).
I expect they'd say they're playing
A game of hide-and-seek!

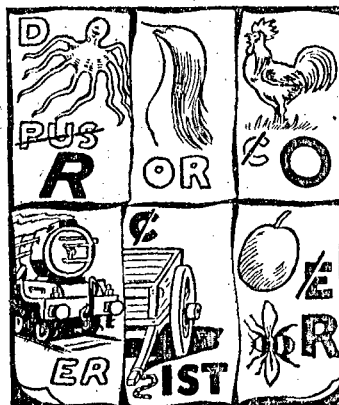
JACKO AND COMPANY GO A-GLIDING



SAFETY PLAY.

WHAT'S HIS LINE?

Answers in column 5



POOR OLD JACK

I'm ever so sorry for poor old Jack Frost.

COMPLETE THE PICTURE

Hals) *Answers in column 2*

NUMBER QUIZ

Boat Race?
How many yards long is a cricket

DOG'S LIFE

And chased all the tradesmen
away."

BUSINESS WORRY

"I don't start until tomorrow. It's the thought of it makes me look so ill."

MISSING MIDDLE

A E B A S W
P U E E Y B

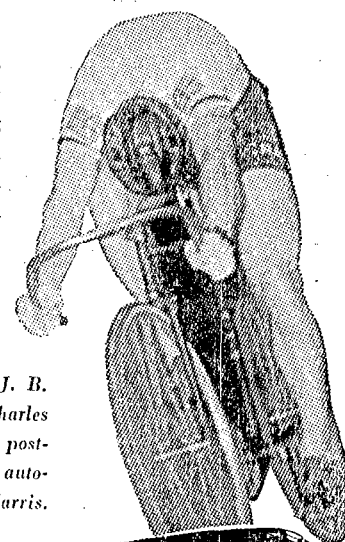
ANSWERS TO QUIZ CORNER

- ## BRAN TUB ANSWERS

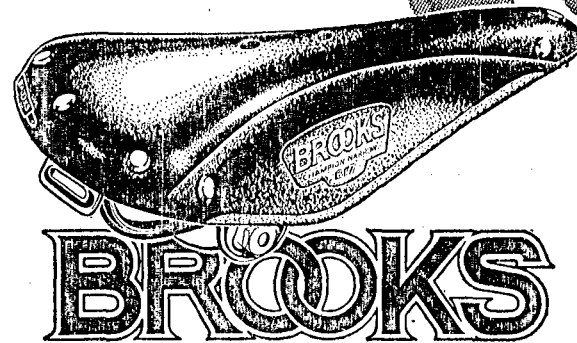
Missing middle.
Smythe—asp, emu,
bye, ate, shy, web

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says REG HARRIS . . .
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